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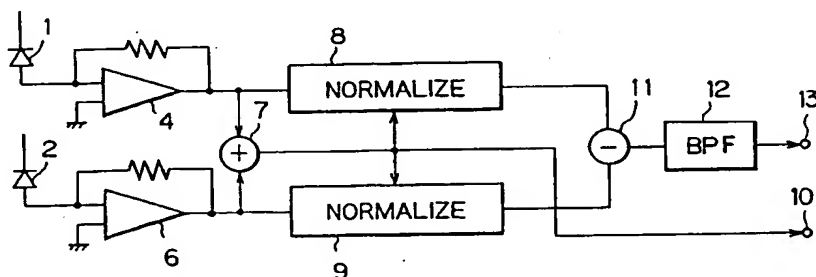
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D-80331 München (DE)(54) **Signal detecting method and signal detecting apparatus.**

(57) Outputs of first and second photodetectors (1,2) are supplied to first and second normalizing circuits (8,9) and are also added by an adding circuit (7). An output of the adding circuit (7) is supplied to the normalizing circuits (8,9). By the output supplied

from the adding circuit (7) to the normalizing circuits (8,9), the outputs supplied from the photodetectors (1,2) to the normalizing circuits (8,9) are normalized. A subtraction is performed between the outputs of the normalizing circuits by a subtracting circuit (11).

Fig. 1

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

Field of the Invention

The present invention relates to signal detecting method and apparatus for processing a reproduction signal from an optical disc in which additional information such as an address or the like is recorded by wobbling a groove for tracking and, more particularly, to signal detecting method and apparatus which can accurately detect the additional information from the optical disc.

Description of the Prior Art

A CD-R disc is known as a writable optical disc. In the CD-R disc, additional information such as an address or the like is recorded by wobbling a groove in advance. That is, for example, a carrier of a predetermined frequency (for example, 22.05 kHz) is modulated by the additional information such as an address or the like. On the basis of the additional information modulated, the groove for tracking is wobbled.

The frequency of the signal which was wobble recorded as mentioned above is enough higher than that of a tracking error signal. Therefore, by separating a predetermined frequency component from the tracking error signal, a wobble signal can be detected.

That is, for instance, a groove 51 is provided along a track on a writable optical disc such as a CD-R or the like as shown in Fig. 3. The groove 51 is wobbled on the basis of the additional information modulated. A deviation of the wobble is set to a small value of about 30nm so as not to exert an influence on a signal component by a pit.

A two-divided detector comprising detectors 61a and 61b as shown in Fig. 4 is provided for such an optical disc. When a laser beam 53 is irradiated to the optical disc, the reflection light is supplied to the two divided detectors 61a and 61b. By performing a subtraction between outputs of the two divided detectors 61a and 61b, a tracking error signal is obtained. On the basis of the tracking error signal obtained as mentioned above, a tracking servo is performed.

Although the groove 51 has been wobbled, since a frequency of the wobble is enough higher as compared with a frequency of the tracking error signal, the laser beam 53 doesn't trace along the groove wobbled but traces the center of the track as a whole.

When the laser beam 53 is allowed to trace along the track, a signal as shown in Fig. 5A is obtained from the detector 61a and a signal as shown in Fig. 5B is obtained from the detector 61b. When a subtraction is performed between the out-

puts of the detectors 61a and 61b and a tracking error signal component is eliminated from the subtracted value, a wobble signal as shown in Fig. 5C is detected. By demodulating the wobble signal, the additional information such as an address or the like can be obtained.

U.S. Patent No. 4942565 discloses an optical disc apparatus using wobbling of tracks on which control information is recorded. Further, U.S. Patent No. 5185732 discloses an optical disc apparatus in which information is recorded on tracks of an optical disc. Furthermore, U.S. Patent application serial No. 095288 filed on July 21, 1993 of the present applicant discloses an apparatus reproducing information recorded in a pre-groove.

When a signal is recorded in such an optical disc, pits 52a and 52b are arranged in the groove 51 wobbled. Conventionally, there is a problem such that, when such pits 52a and 52b are provided, in reproducing, signals of the pits 52a and 52b exert an influence on the wobble signal.

That is, inherently, the signal components of the pits ought to be cancelled by performing a subtraction between the outputs of the two detectors 61a and 61b. In order to raise a sensitivity of a focusing servo, however, a spot diameter of a laser beam is ordinarily converged to a small diameter of about 100 μ m. When the spot diameter of the laser beam is converged as mentioned above, there is a case where a position of the laser beam for the detector is moved due to the temperature characteristics or the like. In this case, a difference of the signal levels of the two detectors 61a and 61b occurs, and as shown in Fig. 5C, a differential signal between the detectors 61a and 61b doesn't become a simple wobble component but includes influence portions 71a, 71b, and 71c by the pits as shown in the hatched portions. When the signal components due to the influence by the pits remain, a problem such that the detection of the wobble signal as a microdeviation becomes unstable occurs. Although such an influence of the signal component is improved to a certain extent by a non-linear operation such as a peak holding or the like, since the pit is influenced by the optical diameter, it cannot be completely improved.

OBJECTS AND SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

Therefore, it is an object of the invention to provide signal detecting method and apparatus which can certainly detect additional information such as an address or the like which was wobble recorded in a groove.

According to an aspect of the invention, there is provided a signal detecting method of detecting additional information of an optical disc which was wobble recorded on a track, wherein outputs of first

and second photodetectors divided in the tangential direction of a track are added, thereby obtaining a reproduction RF signal, the outputs of the first and second photodetectors are normalized by the reproduction RF signal so as to reduce an influence by a recording signal, and a subtraction is performed between the normalized outputs of the first and second photodetectors, thereby obtaining the additional information of the optical disc which was wobble recorded.

According to another aspect of the invention, there is provided a signal detecting apparatus to detect additional information of an optical disc which was wobble recorded on a track, wherein the apparatus comprises: first and second photodetectors divided in the tangential direction of the track; adding means for adding outputs of the first and second photodetectors, thereby obtaining a reproduction RF signal; first and second normalizing means for normalizing the outputs of the first and second photodetectors by the reproduction RF signal so as to reduce the influence by a recording signal; and subtracting means for performing a subtraction between the outputs of the first and second photodetectors normalized by the first and second normalizing means, thereby obtaining the additional information of the optical disc which was wobble recorded.

Outputs of two photodiodes 1 and 2 which construct a two-divided detector are normalized by normalizing circuits 8 and 9. Accordingly, a pit component which is included in an output signal on the photodiode 1 side and a pit component which is included in an output signal on the photodiode 2 side are equal. A subtraction is performed between the two pit components, thereby eliminating the pit signal component existing in a wobble signal component.

The above, and other, objects, features and advantage of the present invention will become readily apparent from the following detailed description thereof which is to be read in connection with the accompanying drawings.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

Fig. 1 is a block diagram of a signal detecting apparatus according to the invention;

Fig. 2 is a circuit block diagram of an example constructing a normalizing circuit;

Fig. 3 is a diagram showing a groove on a disc;

Fig. 4 is a diagram showing a two-divided detector; and

Figs. 5A to 5C are waveform diagrams of signals which are outputted from the two-divided detector.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE PREFERRED EMBODIMENTS

An embodiment of the invention will now be explained hereinbelow with reference to the drawings. Fig. 1 shows a block diagram of a signal detecting apparatus according to the invention. In Fig. 1, photodiodes 1 and 2 construct a two-divided detector. A laser beam from a laser diode (not shown) is reflected by an optical disc (not shown) and a reflection light is received by the photodetectors 1 and 2 which construct the two-divided detector. The optical disc is, for example, a CD-R disc and additional information such as an address or the like is wobble recorded on a groove for tracking of the optical disc.

An output of the photodiode 1 is supplied to a head amplifier 4. An output of the photodiode 2 is supplied to a head amplifier 6. An output of the head amplifier 4 is supplied to an adding circuit 7 and also to a normalizing circuit 8. An output of the head amplifier 6 is supplied to the adding circuit 7 and also to a normalizing circuit 9. Outputs of the two photodetectors 1 and 2 are added by the adding circuit 7 and a reproduction RF signal is obtained from the adding circuit 7. The reproduction RF signal is outputted from an output terminal 10 and is also supplied to the normalizing circuits 8 and 9.

The normalizing circuits 8 and 9 normalize the output signals of the photodetectors 1 and 2 on the basis of the reproduction RF signal. Outputs of the normalizing circuits 8 and 9 are supplied to a subtracting circuit 11. A subtraction is performed between the normalized output signals of the photodetectors 1 and 2. When the subtraction is performed between the output signals of the two photodetectors 1 and 2 as mentioned above, a wobble signal component can be detected. An output of the subtracting circuit 11 is supplied to a band-pass filter 12. The band-pass filter 12 extracts a wobble signal component from the output signals of the two photodetectors 1 and 2. The wobble signal detected from the band-pass filter 12 is outputted and the wobble signal is extracted from an output terminal 13.

The normalizing circuits 8 and 9 are constructed, for example, as shown in Fig. 2. In Fig. 2, the normalizing circuit 8 comprises a variable gain amplifier 21, a detecting circuit 22, and a comparing circuit 23. The normalizing circuit 9 comprises a variable gain amplifier 31, a detecting circuit 32, and a comparing circuit 33.

An output of the photodiode 1 is supplied to an input terminal 20 through the head amplifier 4 in Fig. 1. An output of the variable gain amplifier 21 is outputted from an output terminal 24 and is also supplied to the detecting circuit 22. In the detecting

circuit 22, an output signal level of the variable gain amplifier 21 is detected. An output of the detecting circuit 22 is supplied to the comparing circuit 23. The reproduction RF signal which was transmitted through a terminal 40 and a detecting circuit 41 is inputted to the comparing circuit 23.

An output of the photodiode 2 is supplied to an input terminal 30 through the head amplifier 6 in Fig. 1. An output of the variable gain amplifier 31 is outputted from the output terminal 34 and is also supplied to the detecting circuit 32. In the detecting circuit 32, an output signal level of the variable gain amplifier 31 is detected. An output of the detecting circuit 32 is supplied to the comparing circuit 33. The reproduction RF signal which was transmitted through the terminal 40 and the detecting circuit 41 is inputted to the comparing circuit 33.

An output level of the detecting circuit 22 and a reproduction RF signal level are compared by the comparing circuit 23. In accordance with a comparison output, a gain of the variable gain amplifier 21 is controlled. Due to this, the output signal level on the photodiode 1 side which is outputted from the output terminal 24 is controlled in accordance with the reproduction RF signal level.

An output level of the detecting circuit 32 and the reproduction RF signal level are compared by the comparing circuit 33. In accordance with a comparison output, a gain of the variable gain amplifier 31 is controlled. Due to this, the output signal level on the photodiode 2 side which is outputted from the output terminal 34 is controlled in accordance with the reproduction RF signal level.

Accordingly, the output signal level on the photodiode 1 side and the output signal level on the photodiode 2 side are normalized so as to be equal. As mentioned above, a pit component included in the output signal on the photodiode 1 side and a pit component included in the output signal on the photodiode 2 side are substantially equalized and a pit signal component is hardly included in the wobble signal component which is obtained from the subtracting circuit 11.

It is sufficient that a frequency band as a target of the normalization covers a frequency of the wobble signal, for example, a frequency of 22.05 kHz.

According to the invention, the outputs of the two photodiodes 1 and 2 which construct the two-divided detector are normalized by the normalizing circuits 8 and 9. Therefore, the pit component included in the output signal on the photodiode 1 side and the pit component included in the output signal on the photodiode 2 side are almost equal. When a subtraction is performed between those signals by the subtracting circuit 11, the pit components are cancelled. Due to this, the pit signal

components are hardly included in the wobble signal components which are outputted from the output terminal 13.

5 Claims

1. A signal detecting method of detecting additional information of an optical disc which was wobble recorded on a track, comprising the steps of:
 - adding outputs of first and second photodetectors (1,2) divided in the tangential direction of said track, thereby obtaining a reproduction RF signal;
 - normalizing said outputs of said first and second photodetectors (1,2) by said RF signal so as to reduce an influence by a recording signal; and
 - performing a subtraction between said normalized outputs of said first and second photodetectors (1,2), thereby obtaining said additional information of the optical disc which was wobble recorded.
2. The signal detecting method according to claim 1, wherein said normalizing step comprises the steps of:
 - detecting said reproduction RF signal;
 - performing gain control of outputs of said first and second photodetectors (1,2), respectively;
 - detecting the levels of said outputs of said gain control, respectively;
 - comparing said detected levels and the level of said reproduction RF signal, respectively; and
 - controlling outputs of said first and second photodetectors (1,2) on the basis of an output of said comparison.
3. The signal detecting method according to claims 1 or 2, wherein said optical disc is a CD-R disc.
4. A signal detecting apparatus to detect additional information of an optical disc which was wobble recorded on a track, comprising:
 - first and second photodetectors (1,2) divided in the tangential direction of said track;
 - adding means (7) for adding outputs of said first and second photodetectors (1,2), thereby obtaining a reproduction RF signal;
 - first and second normalizing means (8,9) for normalizing said outputs of said first and second photodetectors (1,2) by said reproduction RF signal so as to reduce an influence by a recording signal; and
 - subtracting means (11) for performing a

subtraction between said outputs of said first and second photodetectors (1,2) normalized by said first and second normalizing means (8,9), thereby obtaining said additional information of the optical disc which was wobble recorded.

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5. The signal detecting apparatus according to claim 4, further comprising first detecting means (41) for detecting said reproduction RF signal,

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said first and second normalizing means (8,9) comprising;

first and second variable gain means (21,22) for performing gain control of said outputs of said first and second photodetectors (1,2), respectively;

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second and third detecting means (22,32) for detecting outputs of said first and second variable gain means (21,31), respectively; and

first and second comparing means (23,33) for comparing outputs of said second and third detecting means (22,32) and an output of said first detecting means (41).

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6. The signal detecting apparatus according to claims 4 or 5, wherein said optical disc is a CD-R disc.

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Fig. 1

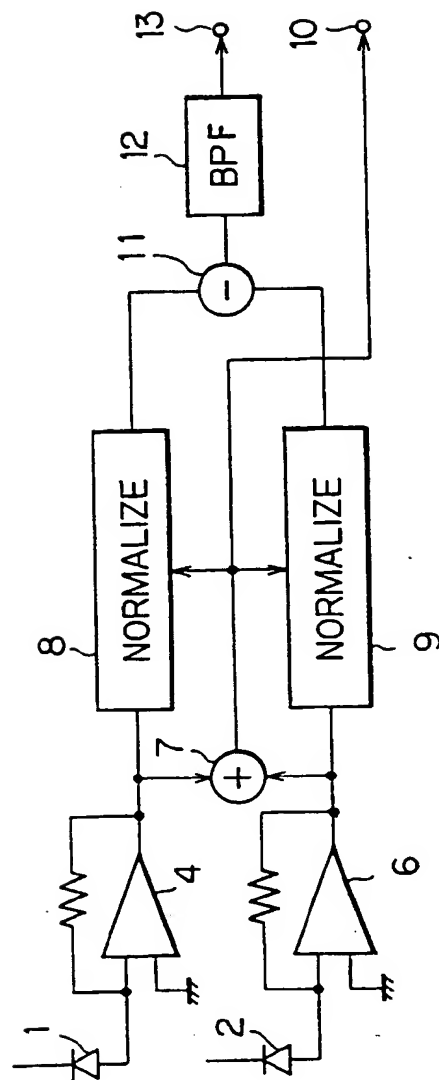


Fig. 2

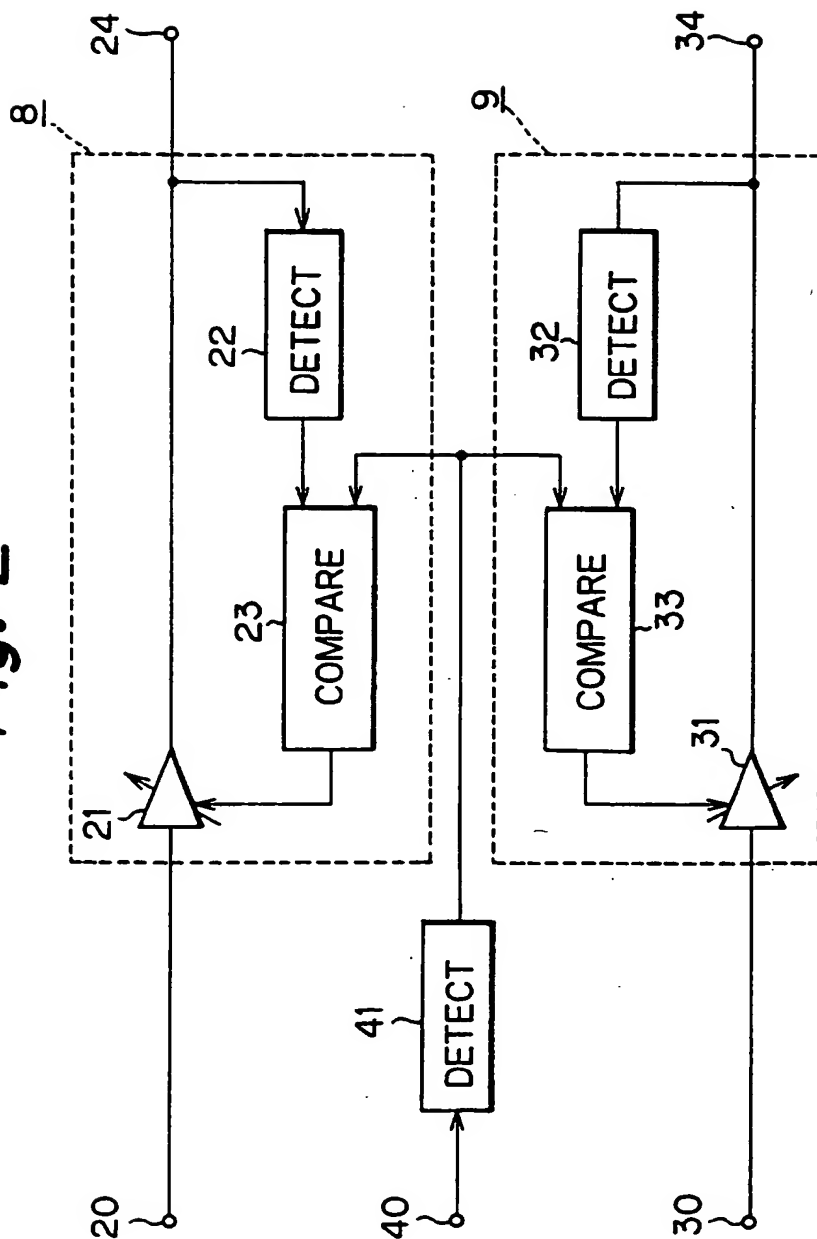


Fig. 3

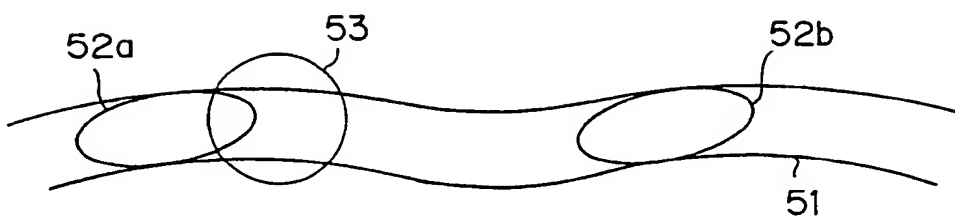


Fig. 4

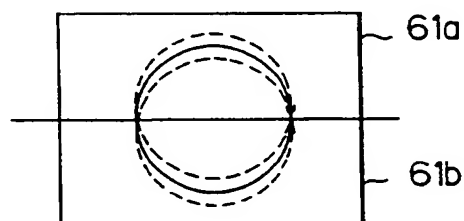


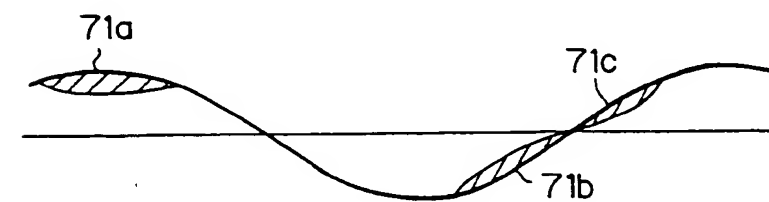
Fig. 5 A



Fig. 5 B



Fig. 5 C





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EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

Application Number
EP 94 10 5288

DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT			
Category	Citation of document with indication, where appropriate, of relevant passages	Relevant to claim	CLASSIFICATION OF THE APPLICATION (Int.CLS)
A	EP-A-0 530 023 (MITSUBISHI) * page 6, line 13 - line 43; figure 9 * * page 4, line 35 - line 54; figures 3-5 *	1-6	G11B7/09
A	US-A-4 967 404 (D. M. ORLICKI, W. T. FEARNside) * the whole document *	1,2,4,5	
A	EP-A-0 457 567 (SONY) * the whole document *	1,4	
P,A	EP-A-0 580 419 (SONY) * the whole document *	1,4	
			TECHNICAL FIELDS SEARCHED (Int.C1.5)
			G11B
The present search report has been drawn up for all claims			
Place of search THE HAGUE		Date of completion of the search 11 July 1994	Examiner Holubov, C
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